WITCHES' TALES

K 47964
FEB
1975
75¢

FEATURING:

HAIRY, CRAWLING THINGS AND WINGED BEASTS ENTER THE

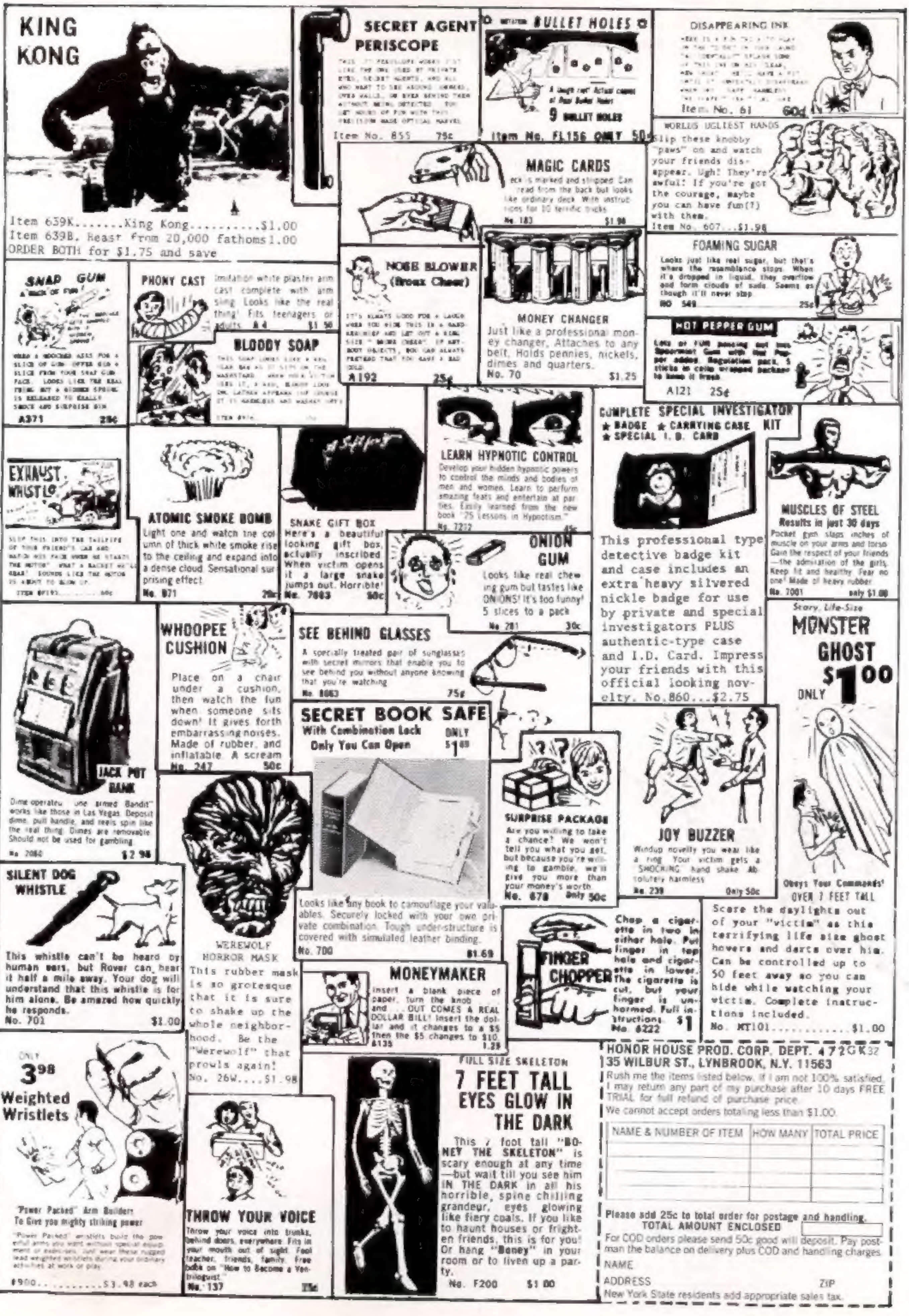
GRUESOME NIGHTMARE

BY THE LIGHT OF THE MAD MOON CAME THE

NIGHT MONSTERS

PLUS

THE SLIMY HAUNT


KING KONG
Item 639K.......King Kong..........$1.00
Item 639B. Beast from 20,000 fathoms 1.00
ORDER BOTH for $1.75 and save
SECRET AGENT PERISCOPE
Item No. 855 75c
BULLET HOLES
9 BULLET HOLES
Item No. FL156 ONLY 50¢
DISAPPEARING INK
Item No. 61 60¢
WORLDS UGLIEST HANDS
Slip these knobby "paws" on and watch your friends disappear. Ugh! They're awful! If you've got the courage, maybe you can have fun(?) with them.
Item No. 607...$1.98
MAGIC CARDS
eck is marked and stripped. Can read from the back but looks like ordinary deck. With instructions for 10 terrific tricks
No. 183 $1.98
FOAMING SUGAR
Looks just like real sugar, but that's where the resemblance stops. When it's dropped in liquid, they overflow and form clouds of suds. Seems as though it'll never stop.
NO 549 25¢
SNAP GUM
A371 25¢
PHONY CAST
Imitation white plaster arm cast complete with arm sling. Looks like the real thing! Fits teenagers or adults. A4 $1.50
BLOODY SOAP
NOSE BLOWER (Bronx Cheer)
A192 25¢
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Just like a professional money changer, Attaches to any belt, Holds pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters.
No. 70 $1.25
HOT PEPPER GUM
A121 25¢
LEARN HYPNOTIC CONTROL
Develop your hidden hypnotic powers to control the minds and bodies of men and women. Learn to perform amazing feats and entertain at parties. Easily learned from the new book "75 Lessons in Hypnotism."
No. 7212
COMPLETE SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR KIT
★ BADGE ★ CARRYING CASE ★ SPECIAL I.D. CARD
This professional type detective badge kit and case includes an extra heavy silvered nickle badge for use by private and special investigators PLUS authentic-type case and I.D. Card. Impress your friends with this official looking novelty. No.860...$2.75
MUSCLES OF STEEL
Results in just 30 days
Pocket gym slaps inches of muscle on your arms and torso. Gain the respect of your friends—the admiration of the girls. Keep fit and healthy. Fear no one! Made of heavy rubber.
No. 7001 only $1.00
EXHAUST WHISTLE
ATOMIC SMOKE BOMB
Light one and watch the column of thick white smoke rise to the ceiling and expand into a dense cloud. Sensational surprising effect.
No. 871
SNAKE GIFT BOX
Here's a beautiful looking gift box, actually inscribed. When victim opens it a large snake jumps out. Horrible!
No. 7003 50c
ONION GUM
Looks like real chewing gum but tastes like ONIONS! It's too funny! 5 slices to a pack
No. 281 30c
Scary, Life-Size
MONSTER GHOST
ONLY $1.00
JACK POT BANK
Dime operated "one armed Bandit" works like those in Las Vegas. Deposit dime, pull handle, and reels spin like the real thing. Dimes are removable. Should not be used for gambling.
No. 2084 $2.98
WHOOPEE CUSHION
Place on a chair under a cushion, then watch the fun when someone sits down! It gives forth embarrassing noises. Made of rubber, and inflatable. A scream
No. 247 50c
SEE BEHIND GLASSES
A specially treated pair of sunglasses with secret mirrors that enable you to see behind you without anyone knowing that you're watching
No. 8063 75¢
SECRET BOOK SAFE
With Combination Lock
Only You Can Open
ONLY $1.69
Looks like any book to camouflage your valuables. Securely locked with your own private combination. Tough under-structure is covered with simulated leather binding.
No. 700 $1.69
SURPRISE PACKAGE
Are you willing to take a chance? We won't tell you what you get, but because you're willing to gamble, we'll give you more than your money's worth.
No. 678 Only 50c
JOY BUZZER
Windup novelty you wear like a ring. Your victim gets a "SHOCKING" hand shake. Absolutely harmless.
No. 238 Only 50c
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OVER 7 FEET TALL
Scare the daylights out of your "victim" as this terrifying life size ghost hovers and darts over him. Can be controlled up to 50 feet away so you can hide while watching your victim. Complete instructions included.
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This whistle can't be heard by human ears, but Rover can hear it half a mile away. Your dog will understand that this whistle is for him alone. Be amazed how quickly he responds.
No. 701 $1.00
WEREWOLF HORROR MASK
This rubber mask is so grotesque that it is sure to shake up the whole neighborhood. Be the "Werewolf" that prowls again!
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MONEYMAKER
Insert a blank piece of paper, turn the knob and ...OUT COMES A REAL DOLLAR BILL! Insert the dollar and it changes to a $5 then the $5 changes to $10.
6135 1.29
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Chop a cigarette in two in either hole. Put finger in top hole and cigarette in lower. The cigarette is cut, but your finger is unharmed. Full instructions.
No. 6222 $1
ONLY 3.98
Weighted Wristlets
"Power Packed" Arm Builders
To Give you mighty striking power
#900..........$3.98 each
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Throw your voice into trunks, behind doors, everywhere. Fits in your mouth out of sight. Fool teacher, friends, family. Free book on "How to Become a Ventriloquist."
No. 137 25c
FULL SIZE SKELETON
7 FEET TALL EYES GLOW IN THE DARK
This 7 foot tall "BONEY THE SKELETON" is scary enough at any time—but wait till you see him IN THE DARK in all his horrible, spine chilling grandeur, eyes glowing like fiery coals. If you like to haunt houses or frighten friends, this is for you! Or hang "Boney" in your room or to liven up a party.
No. F200 $1.00
HONOR HOUSE PROD. CORP. DEPT. 472GK32
35 WILBUR ST., LYNBROOK, N.Y. 11563
Rush me the items listed below. If I am not 100% satisfied, I may return any part of my purchase after 10 days FREE TRIAL for full refund of purchase price.
We cannot accept orders totaling less than $1.00.
NAME & NUMBER OF ITEM
HOW MANY
TOTAL PRICE
Please add 25c to total order for postage and handling.
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED
For COD orders please send 50c good will deposit. Pay postman the balance on delivery plus COD and handling charges.
NAME
ADDRESS
ZIP
New York State residents add appropriate sales tax.

WITCHES' TALES

FEBRUARY 1975 CONTENTS VOL. 7 NO. 1

THE GRUESOME NIGHTMARE 4

Vile giant creatures that crawl and fly churn the pit of horror into a raging nightmare of bloody panic for those caught in the web of a madman.

ONE STEP BEYOND 12

Awesome terror ends in a river of blood for two brothers, one of whom wanted freedom from a weird quirk of nature and took one step beyond.

THE SLIMY HAUNT 18

It came from the slimy ooze on the ocean's bottom like a vicious banshee screaming for revenge and found it in a tiny fear-ridden fishing village.

NIGHT MONSTERS 28

Visitors from outer space are picked up in the dead of night and are shocked by the unreal thing that gave them a lift—that is, a lift into eternity.

THE DEVIL STATUES 34

Fashioned by Satan himself, statues of marble move and rip human flesh on orders of a maniac who found the secret of the museum pieces.

THE UNKNOWN 41

A one page travelog into strange worlds.

THE SORCERESS 42

The witches of Salem breathe again in the flesh and blood of Abigail Wilkins whose ancestors were burned for practicing witchcraft.

CARL BURGOS, Editor IRVING FASS, Art Director
EZRA JACKSON, Art Editor

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ALL BILL AND JANE WANTED WAS TO DISAPPEAR FOR A FEW DAYS IN ORDER TO GET MARRIED QUIETLY. BUT THEIR EVERYDAY WORLD BECAME A HIDEOUS JUNGLE OF TERROR, WHEN THEY LEARNED OF THE TERRIBLE CURSE OF KING KALA!
GRUESOME NIGHTMARE
JANE'S UNCLE BEN HAD BEEN A SCIENTIST AND EXPLORER. HE RECEIVED THEM IN A ROOM FULL OF HIS EXOTIC TROPHIES...
ELOPING, EH? WELL I'LL BE GLAD TO HAVE YOU HERE FOR A WHILE. GIVES ME SOMEBODY TO TELL MY STORIES TO!
IT'S KIND OF YOU, SIR!
AND UNCLE BEN'S STORIES ARE FASCINATING, BILL!
EVER TELL YOU ABOUT KING KALA, THE MAN WHO COULD SHRINK PEOPLE AND BRING THEM BACK TO NORMAL WITH HIS POTION? THAT'S HIS DEATH MASK ON THE WALL! WELL OLD KALA GAVE ME... UHH! OH... MY HEART!
UNCLE! WHAT IS IT?
JUST MY USUAL ATTACKS! I'D BE LOST... WITHOUT THESE... PILLS!
HERE, UNCLE BEN, TAKE A GLASS OF WATER.

A MOMENT LATER...
YESSIR, KING. KALA WAS A SCIENTIST WITHOUT KNOWING IT... AND A SUPERSTITIOUS SAVAGE AT THE SAME TIME! HE PUT A SILLY CURSE ON HIS POTION. "HE WHO USES THE MAGIC POTION TO HARM HIS FELLOW MAN...
...SHALL FEEL THE CURSE OF KING KALA!" HA HA... THE OLD FOOL! BUT HIS POTION WORKS. JUST A FEW DROPS OF THIS LIQUID AND...
INCREDIBLE!
I'M SORRY, SIR, BUT I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE...
OH! I FEEL SO FUNNY!
JANE! WHAT IS IT?
CAN'T BELIEVE IT, EH?! IN A MOMENT YOU'LL KNOW IT'S TRUE!
UGH! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO US?
...BECAUSE YOUR TEA WAS FULL OF KING KALA'S POTION! HA HA HA!
BILL, I FEEL AWFUL!
THE DARKNESS PASSES. THEY REGAIN CONSCIOUSNESS, AND...
I DON'T KNOW, WHAT HAPPENED, DEAR...
YOU'RE PERFECTY ALRIGHT, CHILDREN...
THE ROOM SEEMS TO WHIRL. BRIGHT FLASHES FILL THE AIR... AND THEN, BLACKNESS!
YOU'RE PERFECT SUBJECTS FOR MY EXPERIMENT! YOUNG AND HEALTHY... AND NOBODY KNOWS WHERE YOU ARE!

...EXCEPT THAT YOU ARE NOW LESS THAN FOUR INCHES TALL! HEH! HEH!
GOOD HEAVENS, JANE, IT'S TRUE!
UNCLE! UNCLE! HOW COULD YOU DO THIS TO US?
YOU'LL MAKE WONDERFUL GUINEA PIGS, CHILDREN! I MUST HURRY AND PREPARE SOME EXPERIMENTS!
DON'T TRY TO ESCAPE, NOW! HA HA! IT'S A LONG WAY TO THE FLOOR!
JANE! THAT PILLOW! LET'S TAKE A CHANCE AND TRY TO ESCAPE!
BILL, HE'S MAD. WHAT WILL HE DO TO US?
ANYTHING'S BETTER THAN WAITING TO FIND OUT!
HERE'S A WEAPON OF SORTS, BILL... THIS PEN!
AFTER DROPPING THE PEN, BILL TAKES THE LONG PLUNGE!
HERE I COME THEN!
IT'S EASY, JANE!

BUT WHAT WILL WE DO? EVEN THOUGH WE ARE FREE, WHERE CAN WE GO?
WE'LL THINK OF SOMETHING, FOR NOW JUST RUN!

BILL! IT'S LIKE A JUNGLE, AND IT'S ONLY GRASS!
GONE! WHERE ARE YOU? COME BACK, YOU LITTLE FOOLS!
HERE HE COMES, JANE! UNDER THAT ROSE BUSH QUICKLY!

AL RIGHT! YOU'LL SOON COME CRAWLING BACK. THERE'S NOWHERE ELSE FOR YOU TO GO!
HE CAN'T FIND US...ESPECIALLY WITH HIS WEEK EYES!

AND SO BEGINS SEVERAL DAYS OF UNBELIEVABLE HORROR...!
IT'S GOING TO BE TOUGH, JANE... WE'RE TOO SMALL TO TRAVEL FAR...
BILL! BEHIND US!

TINY INSECTS BECOME MONSTROUS BEASTS...
STAY OUT OF THE WAY, JANE!

HE HAS NO STOMACH FOR A FIGHT, JANE! DON'T WORRY, HE'S LEAVING!
OH, BILL, I'M SO AFRAID! I NEVER DREAMED..

DOMESTIC CREATURES TURN INTO HUGE AND DANGEROUS ENEMIES!

BY DAY THEY QUENCH THEIR THIRST WITH DEW AND FEED ON SEEDS AND BERRIES, FIGHTING FOR EVERY MORSEL...
I HOPE HE DIDN'T BRING ANY FRIENDS... ANTS ARE REAL FIGHTERS!

UGH! A RAT! BILL, WE CAN'T GO ON LIKE THIS!
AND BY NIGHT THEY CROUCH IN TINY HOLES HIDING FROM THE SAVAGE HUNTERS OF THE DARK HOURS!
SHH! THIS HOLE IS TOO SMALL FOR HIM TO GET INTO!

FINALLY ONE MORNING...
WE'D BETTER HURRY ACROSS THIS OPEN SPACE AND..
DUCK, JANE!

THERE'S ONE CHANCE, JANE... AND I THINK IT WILL WORK!

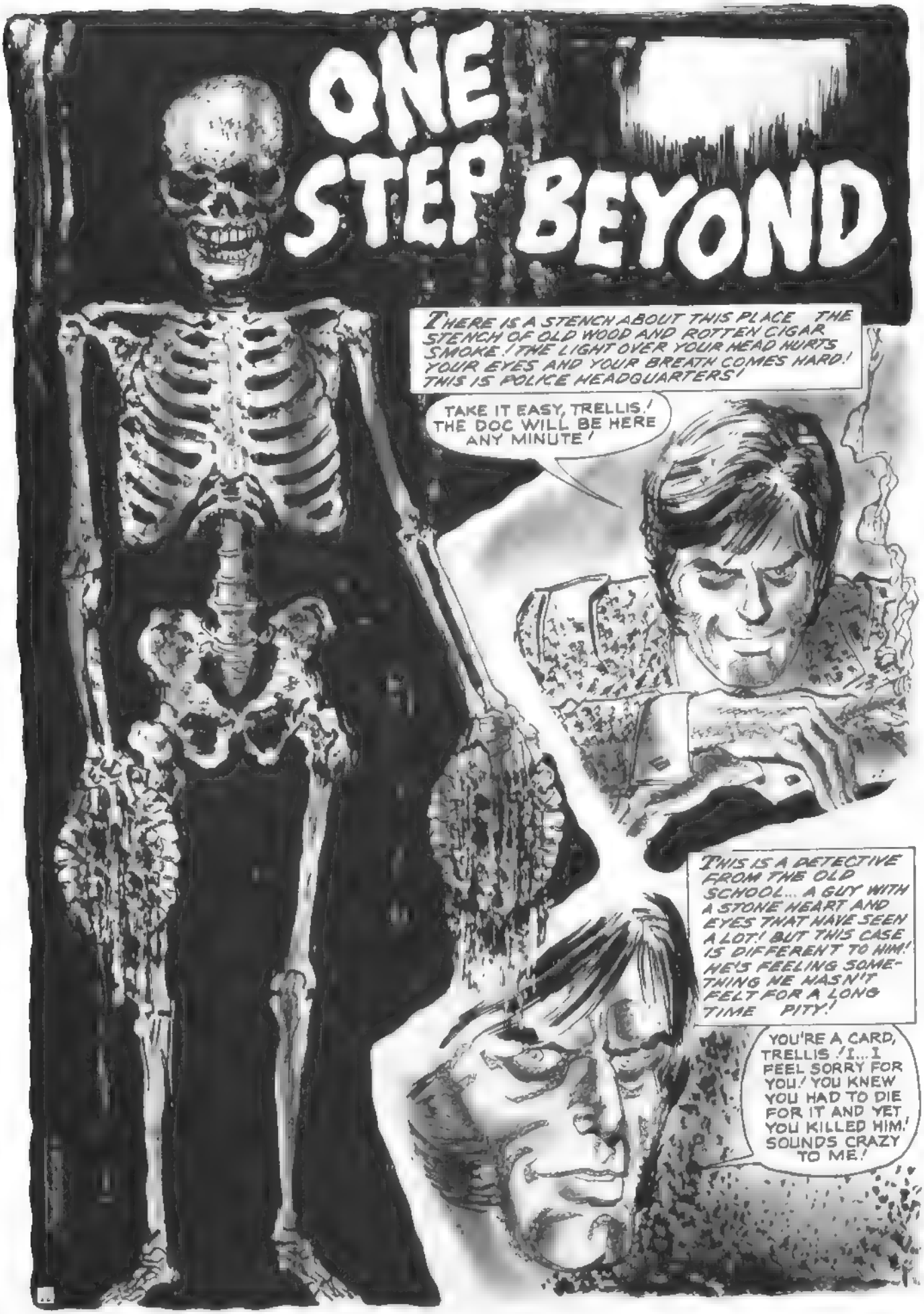
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE/AHH... I SEE!
MADE IT! NOW TO GET MY SPEAR LOOSE!
THERE'S NO TIME! RUN! HERE COMES UNCLE BEN!

YOU LITTLE IDIOTS ARE STILL ALIVE, THEN. WELL, SINCE THE BEASTS HAVEN'T GOTTEN RID OF YOU... I WILL. I'D RATHER HAVE YOU DEAD, THAN USELESS TO ME!

AN HOUR LATER...
LOOK! A BUNCH OF GRAPES! WON'T THEY TASTE DELICIOUS!
FUNNY, I'VE SEEN NO GRAPES GROWING HERE! LET'S WATCH THAT FIELD MOUSE!
THE MOUSE TAKES ONE NIBBLE FROM A GRAPE, AND...
POISON! I KNEW IT... YOUR UNCLE IS TRYING TO POISON US, JANE!
OH, BILL, BILL... IT'S HOPELESS. WE'RE DOOMED!

BILL GETS A DESPERATE IDEA, AND LATER THAT DAY...
DON'T TOUCH THOSE PILLS, UNCLE, THEY'RE POISONED!
THEY'RE ALL POISONED BUT ONE! CARE TO GUESS WHICH ONE? IT'S THE SAME DEADLY STUFF YOU TRIED TO FEED US!
IF I GET MY HANDS ON YOU...
CAREFUL, UNCLE... YOUR HEART! ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME FOR ANOTHER ATTACK? WILL YOU PICK THE RIGHT ONE WHEN IT COMES?
MERCILESSLY THE TINY HUMANS TAUNT THEIR OPPRESSOR, UNTIL...
ALRIGHT, YOU WIN! I'LL BRING YOU BACK TO NORMAL! BUT PLEASE... TELL ME WHICH IS THE RIGHT PILL... PLEASE!
CERTAINLY, UNCLE! AFTER YOU KEEP YOUR WORD!
HURRY! I MAY HAVE AN ATTACK ANY MINUTE!
OHHH! IT FEELS THE SAME AS THE FIRST TIME!
AND MINUTES LATER...
QUICKLY! WHICH IS THE GOOD PILL?
BACK TO NORMAL! OH, BILL, IT FEELS WONDERFUL!
HA HA! IT WAS A BLUFF, YOU OLD SCOUNDREL... THEY'RE ALL GOOD!
SO! A BLUFF, EH?! WELL, I'LL SHOW YOU HOW YOUR BLUFF WILL FAIL!

BILL! HE HAS A GUN!
YES! AND EITHER YOU TAKE THE POTION AGAIN... OR YOU DIE! JUST LET ME SWALLOW ONE OF MY PILLS AND
QUICKLY THE OLD MAN POURS A GLASS OF WATER, SWALLOWS A PILL...
WE'LL DIE THEN!
AHH! AND NOW!
WE WON'T GO THROUGH SUCH TORTURE AGAIN!
AGHHH! OH NO! NO!
BILL, HE MUST HAVE TAKEN SOME OF THE POTION BY MISTAKE!
AGONIZING MOMENTS LATER...
GOOD! HE'S JUST LIKE WE WERE!
NO! NO! YOU'LL KILL ME! STAY AWAY!
WE'LL HELP YOU, UNCLE.. WE'LL..
THE BIRD! LOOKOUT!
COME BACK! WE WON'T HURT YOU!
NO! NO!!
AAAAA
OH, BILL, WHAT A HORRIBLE ENDING... EVEN FOR HIM!... COULD IT POSSIBLY HAVE BEEN THE CURSE OF KING KALA?
THE END


ONE STEP BEYOND
THERE IS A STENCH ABOUT THIS PLACE THE STENCH OF OLD WOOD AND ROTTEN CIGAR SMOKE! THE LIGHT OVER YOUR HEAD HURTS YOUR EYES AND YOUR BREATH COMES HARD! THIS IS POLICE HEADQUARTERS!
TAKE IT EASY, TRELLIS! THE DOC WILL BE HERE ANY MINUTE!
THIS IS A DETECTIVE FROM THE OLD SCHOOL... A GUY WITH A STONE HEART AND EYES THAT HAVE SEEN A LOT! BUT THIS CASE IS DIFFERENT TO HIM! HE'S FEELING SOMETHING HE HASN'T FELT FOR A LONG TIME PITY!
YOU'RE A CARD, TRELLIS! I... I FEEL SORRY FOR YOU! YOU KNEW YOU HAD TO DIE FOR IT AND YET YOU KILLED HIM! SOUNDS CRAZY TO ME!

YOU LOOK AT THE CLOCK OVER THE INSPECTORS HEAD! IT TICKS OFF THE REST OF A LIFE, WHY NOT TELL HIM, YOU'VE GOT TO TELL SOMEONE!
YOU'RE NOT INSANE... YET TO DO WHAT YOU DID, I DON'T... WH-WHY, SURE... SURE I'LL LISTEN!
YOU START FROM THE BEGINNING, TELLING HOW MOM AND DAD LIKED YOU BETTER, AND HELD YOU UP AS AN EXAMPLE...
WHY CAN'T YOU BE LIKE BROTHER, INSTEAD OF PLAYING MEAN AND NASTY TRICKS!
YOU TOLD HOW AS THE YEARS PASSED IT GOT WORSE. YOU'D SEE THE SICK HATE OF THOSE STRANGE EYES, AND YOU KNEW THAT ONE DAY HE'D HURT YOU... BADLY!
YOU'RE AFRAID OF ME, AREN'T YOU CHARLES? WELL, I CAN'T SAY I BLAME YOU!
HE JUST USED THAT IRON TO BURN A MARK ON A BOOK... BUT THE BURNING LEATHER AND HISSING SMOKE GOT TO YOU! YOU HATED IT!
HE KNEW YOUR WEAKNESS! YOU WERE SOFT-HEARTED AND HE'D PLAY UPON THAT WEAKNESS... HE HAD LITTLE TRICKS AND GIMMICKS.. LIKE THAT BRANDING IRON...
YOU CAN'T STAND THIS, CAN YOU? WELL, SOMEDAY YOU'LL SHARE MY LOVE OF TORTURE, I'LL MAKE SURE OF THAT!
I LIKE TO THINK ABOUT TORTURE! LOOK AT THIS! IMAGINE WHAT IT CAN DO!
YOU TRIED TO KEEP YOUR BRAIN LOCKED TIGHT, SO THERE WOULDN'T BE EVEN THE SMALLEST CREVICE FOR HIS WILD, FEARFUL THOUGHTS TO SEEP THROUGH... BUT AT NIGHT, HE'D WATCH YOU...
YES, CHARLES... GO TO SLEEP. I WILL STAY UP AND WATCH YOU... AND THINK!

YOU WENT TO SLEEP AND IT STARTED! YOU DREAMT NIGHTMARES DREDGED FROM THE CESSPOOL OF YOUR BROTHERS MIND..
YOU OPENED YOUR EYES, TRYING TO SEE SOMETHING DIFFERENT! AND YOU DID. HIS MALIGNANT FACE!
YOU TRIED TO CHANGE THE SCENE... BUT ALL THAT CAME WAS ANOTHER NIGHTMARE!
GO AHEAD, CHARLES, LOOK AT IT! DON'T BE AFRAID!
THE NEXT MORNING YOU AWOKE. YOU FELT CHANGED, ALMOST LIKE A NEW MAN! YOU DIDN'T CRINGE WHEN YOU PICKED UP THE BRANDING IRON... NOW COLD BUT MENACING IN ITS ASHEN STILLNESS!

YOU TRIED TO SHUT THE THOUGHTS OUT. TRIED TO COVER THEM WITH YOUR FINGERS.. BUT YOU STILL SAW YOUR BROTHERS LEERING FACE... HEARD HIS VOICE
IT'S NO USE, CHARLES! YOU CAN'T KEEP ME OUT! MY THOUGHTS WILL BECOME YOUR THOUGHTS!
THE DETECTIVE LOOKS AT YOU! HIS FACE... ONCE STOLID AND IMMUNE TO OTHER PEOPLES HARDSHIPS.. NOW CRACKS WITH UNDERSTANDING AND COMPASSION!
MY LORD! DO YOU MEAN HE INTRUDED HIS THOUGHTS INTO YOUR BRAIN?
YET THE WORST WAS STILL TO COME. OLD, GREY-HAIRED DAD, WHOM YOU LOVED DEEPLY, NOTICED THE CHANGE IN YOU, AND TRIED TO REASON WITH YOU... GENTLY.
BUT YOU WEREN'T MEAN AND CRAZY HE WAS THE ONE AND HE WAS MAKING YOU LIKE HIM! HE KNEW IT AND TAUNTED YOU WITH IT!
YOU CAN'T DO A THING! YOU'RE HELPLESS... TRAPPED!
WHAT'S BOTHERING YOU, CHARLES? TELL ME, I-I'D LIKE TO HELP YOU!
YOU LOOKED AT YOUR FATHER TEARFULLY, AND THEN SUDDENLY YOU WERE FILLED WITH HATE... NOT YOUR HATE.. BUT HIS! YOU TRIED TO STOP... BUT YOU COULDN'T! YOUR HAND LASHED OUT AND HIT HIM ON THE FACE... HARD!
CHARLES! WH-WHY DID YOU DO IT? I...I WAS TRYING TO HELP YOU, MY SON!

OF COURSE HE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND NOBODY UNDERSTOOD. EXCEPT HIM! YOU LOATHED YOURSELF, BUT HE LOOKED AT YOU.. AND LAUGHED!
THE VERY SIGHT OF HIM MADE YOU SICK! YOU HAD TO DO SOMETHING FAST! AND THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING TO DO!
WELL, CHARLES, I GUESS THEY WON'T ASK ME TO BE LIKE YOU ANYMORE!
CHARLES, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
AGONY BOLTED THROUGH YOU WITH EACH BEAT OF YOUR HEART! YOU COULDN'T STAND IT ANY LONGER...THE SHAME...THE PAIN...
CHARLES...WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU CAN'T... YOU CAN'T!
YOU SMILED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS AS YOU SAW THE MAD TERROR SCRIBBLED ON HIS FACE!
NO, CHARLES, DON'T!...

BUT YOU HAD TO... IT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO STAY SANE! THE BULLET SMASHED THROUGH THAT EVIL TOADSTOOL OF A BRAIN!
YOU CAN STILL HEAR THE DREAD CRASH OF THE GUNSHOT, BUT YOU ARE NO LONGER FRIGHTENED. THE INSPECTOR LOOKS AT YOU, AS IF HE'D LIKE TO HELP... BUT YOU BOTH KNOW THAT HE CAN'T!
THE DOCTOR SAYS IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF HOURS... MAYBE EVEN MINUTES.
YOU KNEW THAT ALL ALONG. ONLY ONE THING IS IMPORTANT. YOU WANT THE INSPECTOR TO EXPLAIN TO DAD... WHY YOU SLAPPED HIM... WHY YOU BEHAVED SO STRANGELY! YOU WANT TO SEE IF THE INSPECTOR UNDERSTANDS COMPLETELY...
YES, YES! IT'S BEGINNING TO MAKE SENSE NOW!
YOU WERE SIAMESE TWINS! HIS THOUGHTS COULD BECOME YOUR THOUGHTS, I GUESS! HE HAD THE STRONGER WILL. YOU... YOU COULD DO NOTHING ELSE TO... TO PROTECT YOURSELF!
I...I HAD TO GET AWAY! THIS WAS MY... MY... ON...LY... ES...CAPE...
THE End

THE SLIMY HAUNT
A REPORTER FOR A BIG CITY DAILY, I'VE SEEN MANY THINGS BUT IT TOOK A TINY FISHING VILLAGE TO GIVE ME A STORY I STILL FIND HARD TO BELIEVE... THE STORY OF THE MARY B. THE MYSTERIOUS DROWNINGS, AND A GHOST WHO BROUGHT.. DEATH FROM THE SEA!
MY NAME IS LINDA CAIN, AND THIS IS MY STORY. IT BEGAN SIMPLY ENOUGH. I WAS SPENDING A QUIET VACATION IN THE LITTLE COASTAL TOWN OF ROCKY-LAND. ONE NIGHT AS I WAS STROLLING ALONG THE TINY BEACH...
THAT SCREAM! IT CAME FROM ONE OF THOSE BIG HOUSES UP THERE!

AS I PUSHED MY WAY THROUGH THE CROWD OF TOWNSPEOPLE IN THE BIG HOUSE...
HE'S DEAD! AND APPARENTLY OF DROWNING!
SO ELLIOT CRAVEN'S GONE...SAME WAY AS HIS RELATIVES BEFORE HIM!
THAT MAKES KIM CRAVEN THE LAST OF THE FAMILY!
DOCTOR, DO YOU MEAN THAT A PERSON CAN DIE OF DROWNING WHILE DRINKING WATER?
WELL, HE COULD HAVE HAD A CHOKING FIT, SWALLOWED TOO MUCH... IT'S POSSIBLE, BUT...
HEH HEH! POSSIBLE, BUT NOT PROBABLE!
ALL OF YE KNOW HOW ELLIOT CRAVEN DIED... IT'S CAP'N BILLY'S REVENGE! KIM IS NEXT! HEH HEH HEH!
OLD MARY! I KNEW SHE WOULD BE CLOSE BY!
DOCTOR, WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT?
THE DOCTOR TOLD ME JUST ENOUGH OF THE STORY TO AROUSE MY CURIOSITY...
JUST SILLY SUPERSTITION, YOU SEE, THE ANCESTORS OF THE CRAVENS WERE SHIPWRECKERS, AND THE LOCAL FOLKS THINK THERE'S A CURSE ON THE FAMILY.
AND THIS KIM CRAVEN LIVES NEXT DOOR, DOESN'T HE?
HMM! THERE OUGHT TO BE A SUNDAY FEATURE IN THIS!

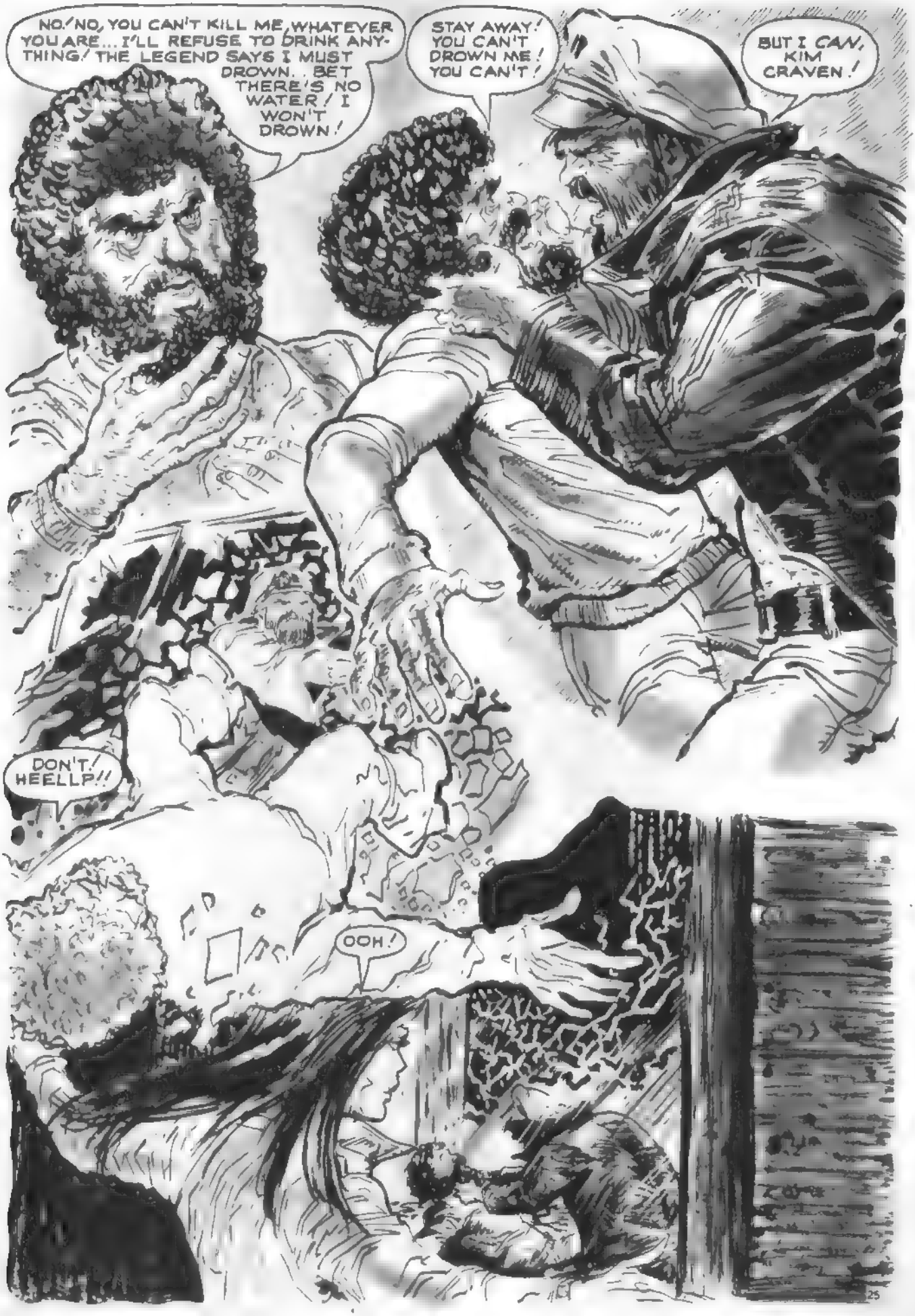
AND MOMENTS LATER I WAS CALLING ON KIM CRAVEN...
MR. CRAVEN, I'M LINDA CAIN, A REPORTER I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU A QUESTION ABOUT...
THE CURSE OF THE CRAVENS OF COURSE... COME IN...I SELDOM HAVE SUCH LOVELY VISITORS!
HE WAS TALKATIVE AND CHARMING, BUT..
BUT SOMEHOW THERE'S A TOUCH OF EVIL ABOUT HIM...
IT'S ALL TRUE, EXCEPT FOR THE GHOST. I DON'T BELIEVE IN GHOSTS. HERE'S THE REAL REASON FOR THEIR STORIES, HERE IN THIS CHEST!
AND IT'S MINE, NOW THAT ELLIOT'S GONE... ALL MINE! DO YOU HEAR?! ALL I NEED IS SOMEONE TO SHARE IT WITH!
LET GO OF ME, YOU CRAZY..
AND YOU ARE THE ONE I'LL SHARE IT WITH, LINDA! YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL, EXQUISITE! I CAN'T LET YOU GO! I'LL NEVER LET YOU GO!
HEH! HEH! OH, YES YOU WILL, KIM CRAVEN!
PLEASE, MR. CRAVEN!
LOOK, MY DEAR! A KING'S RANSOM! WHAT IF MY ANCESTORS WERE WRECKERS, THEY MADE US RICH... RICH!
HE-HE GIVES ME THE CREEPS!
WELL, THANKS, MR. CRAVEN, I THINK I'D BETTER GO!

YOU'LL LET GO OF HER RIGHT NOW... 'CAUSE I SAY YOU WILL!
YOU! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? GET OUT OF MY HOUSE!
I'LL GO, KIM... BUT I'M TAKIN' HER WITH ME! AND I'M WARNIN' YE... LEAVE THIS YOUNG LADY ALONE! COME, MY DEAR!
YOU OLD WITCH!
WE'LL GO TO MY HOUSE, YOUNG-STER, AND I'LL TELL YE THE TRUE STORY OF THE BLACK-HEARTED CRAVENS AND THEIR DIRTY DEEDS!
AND SO I FOUND MYSELF IN THE OLD WOMAN'S TINY COTTAGE BY THE SEA, HEARING THE TALE OF THE CRAVENS, THE MARY B.... AND CAP'N BILLY BALMORAN.
IT WAS MANY YEARS AGO THAT CAP'N BILLY BALMORAN SAILED THESE WATERS, MY GIRL. AN' HE WAS RESPECTED BY EVERY MAN AN' LOVED BY HIS CREW... HIM AN' HIS PRETTY LITTLE SCHOONER, THE MARY B....

A FINE BUCK OF A MAN WAS BILLY BALMORAN... AND NO FOOL. HE KNEW THE SCURVY MURDERIN' TRICKS OF THE SHIP-WRECKIN' CRAVENS!
BUT ONE NIGHT WHEN CAP'N BILLY WAS CATCHIN' FORTY WINKS, HIS MATE FELL FOR THE FALSE SIGNALS OF THE CRAVENS... AND THE POOR MARY B. PILED UP ON DEAD MANS ROCKS.
SHE WAS LOST WITH ALL HANDS, AND A SAD PROCESSION IT WAS THAT NIGHT WHEN THE BODIES FLOATED ASHORE AND THE TOWNFOLK CARRIED 'EM UP THE BLUFFS. THEY NEVER DID FIND THE BODY OF BILLY BALMORAN THOUGH...
BUT THEY SAY THAT BEFORE DAWN THE NEXT DAY, THERE WAS HEARD THE THUD OF HEAVY FOOTSTEPS COMING UP FROM THE SEA, AND THE SOUND OF WATER A'SQUISHIN' OUT OF A MAN'S SEA BOOT...
SOME SAY IT WAS THE GHOST OF BILLY BALMORAN, COME BACK FROM THE SEA SEEKIN' REVENGE AGAINST THE CRAVENS! AT ANY RATE, ONE THING IS CERTAIN
EVERY CRAVEN FROM THAT DAY ON HAS DIED OF DROWNIN'! AN' BECAUSE I'M ALWAYS AROUND WHEN THEY DO, THEY CALL ME A WITCH! FOOLISH, AIN'T IT?

'CAUSE NOBODY BELIEVES IN GHOSTS AND WITCHES NOWADAYS! HEH! HEH!
IT'S A FASCINATING STORY, BUT . BUT I MUST BE GETTING BACK TO THE HOTEL.
I DREAMED THAT NIGHT ABOUT BILLY BALMORAN AND THE MARY B.! BUT NEXT DAY, JUST AS I HAD DECIDED TO FORGET THE WHOLE THING...
MESSAGE FOR MISS LINDA CAIN!
IT WAS POURING RAIN THAT NIGHT WHEN I ARRIVED AT THE COTTAGE. NO ONE ANSWERED MY KNOCK, SO
HELLO, HELLO, ANYONE HOME?
IF YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE CRAVENS, COME TO THE COTTAGE AGAIN TONIGHT!
FROM THE OLD WOMAN OH WELL... MIGHT AS WELL GO, WHY DISAPPOINT THE POOR OLD THING?
OHHH!
KIM CRAVEN! BUT I THOUGHT..
THAT THE OLD WOMAN SENT THE NOTE? NO, SHE'S GONE ON A FOOLS ERRAND. YOU AND I ARE COMPLETELY ALONE, MY DEAR!

I TOLD YOU I'D NEVER LET YOU GO, LINDA / YOU'RE MINE, DO YOU UNDERSTAND!?
STOP IT, YOU FOOL, OR I'LL... LISTEN! THAT NOISE!
THE THUD OF HEAVY FOOTSTEPS COMING UP FROM THE SEA / AND THE SOUND OF WATER SQUISHING OUT OF..
SEA BOOTS! AND THEY'RE COMING THIS WAY! OH, NO! IT CAN'T BE!
...FOR BILLY BALMORAN HAS COME FOR THE LAST OF THE CRAVENS!
YES, 'TIS I, YE BLACK DEVIL! BUT I'M NOT ALONE THIS TIME!
NO!
YOU!


NO! NO, YOU CAN'T KILL ME, WHATEVER YOU ARE... I'LL REFUSE TO DRINK ANYTHING! THE LEGEND SAYS I MUST DROWN.. BET THERE'S NO WATER! I WON'T DROWN!
STAY AWAY! YOU CAN'T DROWN ME! YOU CAN'T!
BUT I CAN, KIM CRAVEN!
DON'T! HEELLP!!
OOH!

THAT'S ALL I REMEMBER. BUT I REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS JUST IN TIME TO HEAR...
HEH! HEH! THAT'S HOW IT HAPPENED! HE WAS STRUGGLING WITH THE GIRL AND HE FELL THROUGH THE WINDOW! SERVED HIM RIGHT, TOO!
BUT THAT ISN'T HOW IT HAPPENED, DOCTOR! WHAT ABOUT CAPT. BILLY AND...
HUSH! YOU'VE HAD A NASTY SHOCK, PROBABLY DREAMED ABOUT...
SHE...? OH, I'M SO MIXED UP! I CAN'T BELIEVE... DOCTOR, LOOK AT THE FLOOR!
DOCTOR, WHO IS THAT OLD WOMAN?
DIDN'T YOU KNOW? WHY THAT'S OLD MARY BALMORAN... THEY CALL HER MARY B. SHE'S THE DAUGHTER OF BILLY BALMORAN!
SEAWEED! AND THE PRINT OF A SEA-BOOT!
TEE DIDDLE DUM! THERE IS NO SAFE HAVEN, FOR HIM WHOSE NAME IS CRAVEN! HEH HEH HEH!
WELL, THAT'S MY STORY! WHAT DO YOU THINK? DO YOU BELIEVE IN THE GHOST OF BILLY BALMORAN? AS FOR ME, I'M GOING BACK TO WRITING ABOUT PLAIN HUMAN INTEREST STORIES!
THE END

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MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

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NIGHT CAN BE HORRIBLE, BUT YOU'LL WISH YOU STAYED IN THE DARK WHEN YOU SEE THE LIGHT IN.
NIGHT MONSTERS

HUGO CRANE LOVED MONEY! IN FACT, HE WAS CRAZY ABOUT IT! ANYONE WORKING WITH HIM, UNDER HIM -- OR NEAR HIM ENDED UP PAYING...
AND PAYING...
...AND PAYING!
AND ONE DAY, HE HAD TO TAKE A TRIP!
NO SLIP UPS... UNDERSTAND! I'LL BE GONE EIGHT DAYS! I'M DRIVING CROSS-COUNTRY... MIXING PLEASURE WITH BUSINESS! SEE THAT NOTHING FOOLISH HAPPENS!
Y-YES SIR!
FORECLOSE ON THE NORBEL ACCOUNT! GET EVERY PENNY YOU CAN! AND MAKE SURE YOUR EXPENSE ACCOUNTS ARE TRIPLE CHECKED! ONE EXTRA WASTE AND YOU'RE THROUGH!
YES, MR. CRANE!

THAT BLOOD-SUCK ING VAMPIRE! I'VE NEVER HATED ANYONE AS MUCH AS I HATE HIM!
SHH! THESE WALLS HAVE EARS! CALM DOWN A BIT! I HAVE AN IDEA!
WE'VE GOT TO TEACH HIM A LESSON! IT MAY SOUND CHILDISH.. BUT PERHAPS IT'S JUST THE VERY THING TO BRING HIM TO HIS SENSES!
I DOUBT IT. BUT GO ON! I'LL LISTEN TO ANYTHING!
SO HUGO CRANE STARTED HIS TRIP THAT NIGHT, THOROUGHLY PREPARED FOR THE UNEXPECTED!
WAIT TILL I GET BACK! THEY'LL WISH THEY NEVER STARTED IT! OH--OH! IT'S STARTING TO RAIN!

THEN HUGO SAW THE FIGURE.
OH NO! WHAT DO THEY THINK I AM... A BABY? HA!.. IF THAT ISN'T THE MOST STUPID GETUP I'VE SEEN!
THEY EXPECTED ME TO PICK HIM UP! WELL... HE CAN HITCH A RIDE FROM SOMEONE ELSE!
A HALF-HOUR LATER, HE SAW ANOTHER!
I'M BEGINNING TO SEE THE LIGHT NOW! THEY'VE STATIONED A DOZEN ACTORS ON THE HIGHWAY! THEY KNOW I'LL GET CURIOUS AND PICK ONE UP! THEN I'M TO BE TAUGHT MY LESSON!
WELL... I'LL JUST NOT TUMBLE INTO THEIR LITTLE SCHEME!
ALL RIGHT! YOU WIN! HOP IN! MIGHT AS WELL TAKE YOU WHEREVER YOU'RE GOING!
BUT HUGO'S CURIOSITY GOT THE BEST OF HIM. AND AT ANOTHER INTERSECTION...
NOW I'LL SEE WHAT HE'S GOING TO DO!

BUT HUGO'S GUEST DID NOTHING!
SO THAT'S HIS GAME! PROBABLY THINKS I'LL GET FRIGHTENED!
C'MON YOU! TAKE OFF THAT CRUMMY MASK! MY PATIENCE IS AT AN END!
HUH? IT WON'T COME OFF! IT IS YOUR FACE! BUT THAT'S SILLY!
I HAVEN'T ACTED OR SPOKEN BECAUSE I HAVE BEEN OBSERVING YOU! YES...I THINK YOU'LL DO! MY FRIENDS AND I ARE FROM MARS!
HMM...
WE STATIONED OURSELVES AT VARIOUS POINTS TO OBSERVE THE HUMANENESS OF YOUR RACE! YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE WHO OFFERED TO HELP US! THEREFORE WE SHALL TAKE YOU TO MARS!
IF THIS FANTASTIC DRIVEL IS SUPPOSED TO FRIGHTEN ME, IT'S FAILED COMPLETELY!
KINDLY STOP HERE! MY COMPANIONS ARE WAITING FOR US AT THIS POINT! YOU WILL DRIVE US TO OUR ROCKETSHIP!
OKAY! I. I'LL DO WHATEVER YOU SAY--ONLY DON'T HURT ME!
THE POOR FOOLS! SOON IT WILL BE MY TURN!

SO HUGO CRANE PICKED UP A FEW MORE FIGURES, AND SHORTLY AFTER.
OKAY! WE'RE HERE! WHERE'S YOUR ROCKET-SHIP?
HIDDEN! HOWEVER -- ONE OTHER THING WE WISH OF YOU -- BEFORE WE SHOW YOU THE SHIP! YOU MUST PURGE YOURSELF OF EVIL!
AGREE TO BE HONEST, GENEROUS, AND SINCERE -- AND WE SHALL LET YOU REMAIN ON OUR OWN PLANET! FOR WE CAN SENSE THE GREED AND CRUELTY IN YOUR SOUL!
COME OFF IT, BUSTER! DON'T INSULT MY INTELLIGENCE ANY MORE!
THERE'S NO ROCKETSHIP ON THIS FIELD! IT'S EMPTY -- THE MOON'S OUT, IT'S STOPPED RAINING -- AND YOUR ACTING STINKS!
ACTING --?
GUESS YOU SAW THROUGH US! I KNEW YOU WOULDN'T FALL FOR THIS CRAZY STUNT! NOW HOW ABOUT DRIVING US BACK TO THE HIGHWAY?
OH -- I COULDN'T DO THAT! YOU'RE MEN FROM MARS -- REMEMBER?
A VAMPIRE!
LOOK, MISTER, WE'RE SIDESHOW FREAKS HIRED TO PULL THIS NUTTY STUNT! THEY SAID YOU'RE A GREEDY, BLOOD-SUCKING VAMPIRE, SO WE WERE TO SCARE YOU GOOD! NOW, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
I WILL -- IN TIME! BUT YOU SHOULD HAVE KNOWN MY ASSOCIATES WOULD BE RIGHT! I AM --
Rouseros
THE END

THE DEVIL STATUES

THE FIRST MAN TO SEE THEM WAS A MR. SAM CLAYTON OF 2496 ORWELL AVENUE IN THE BRONX...
MR CLAYTON DIDN'T LIKE WHAT HE SAW...
MR CLAYTON TRIED TO SCREAM FOR HELP! HE OPENED HIS MOUTH, BUT NO SOUNDS CAME OUT...
AND ALL THIS TIME THE STATUES KEPT MOVING CLOSER, AND CLOSER..
THE FIRST BLOW WAS ENOUGH TO SPLIT HIS SKULL WIDE OPEN! BUT THE STATUES KEPT WORKING OVER UNTIL THERE WAS A SPLINTERED, BLOODY MESS WAS ALL THAT WAS LEFT OF A MAN NAMED SAM CLAYTON!
AND THEN, THEIR MISSION ACCOMPLISHED, THE STATUES TROOPED BACK INTO THE MUSEUM...
BUT THERE HAD BEEN A WITNESS...
STATUES... I SAW THEM! THEY KILLED HIM... THEN WENT BACK INTO THE MUSEUM!
SURE, SURE-- AND THEN THE COW JUMPED OVER THE MOON...
AT THE STATION HOUSE, MR. FENDRICK KEPT WISHING HIS STORY WAS TRUE...
NOBODY BELIEVES ME! BUT I TELL YOU I SAW THEM!
CALM DOWN! I THINK YOU'RE NUTS BUT I'M GONNA SEND A PATROLMAN INTO THE MUSEUM JUST TO CHECK AROUND!

ANOTHER COP MIGHT NOT HAVE FOUND ANYTHING BUT DONOVAN WAS TOO SHARP FOR HIS OWN GOOD
HMM THIS LOOKS LIKE DRIED BLOOD CLOTTED BETWEEN THE FINGERS
PATROLMAN DONOVAN WAS ABOUT TO LEAVE WHEN HE HEARD SOME FOOTSTEPS ON THE BALCONY
WHO'S THAT UP THERE? SHOW YER FACE
WHOEVER WAS ON THE BALCONY SLIPPED BEHIND A PILLAR AND BEGAN TO CHANT
STATUES OF HELL A O ΔΩΑΒΑΙΝΣ ΕΛΛΑΝΚΑ COME TO LIFE!
AND THE STATUES STEPPED STIFFLY DOWN FROM THEIR PEDESTALS THE SECOND TIME THAT NIGHT.
HEY! WHAT?
DONAVAN LOST HIS HEAD! HE RAN WILDLY
SMACK INTO A DEAD END!
I-I'M TRAPPED!
AND THEN, POOR DONOVAN REALLY LOST HIS HEAD!

TWO DAYS LATER, THE COMMISSIONER CALLED ME INTO HIS OFFICE...

MAX, THIS IS THE SCREWIEST CASE THAT EVER FELL INTO OUR LAPS! IT'S STRICTLY HUSH-HUSH!

HERE'S A COPY OF A SPECIAL DELIVERY LETTER RAYMOND HACKETT GOT LAST NIGHT! YOU KNOW THE MAN--HE USED TO BE A JUDGE--AND THIS LETTER SAYS HE'LL BE KILLED SHORTLY AFTER HE ARRIVES HERE! IT'S SIGNED: STATUES FROM HELL!

I'LL HOP OVER TO THE MUSEUM... SEE WHAT I CAN FIND OUT!

GOOD! FENDRICK, THE MAN WHO SAW THE FIRST KILLING, IS UNDER CUSTODY SO THE STORY DOESN'T LEAK OUT...

BY THE TIME I GOT THERE, THE MUSEUM WAS CLOSED.

MR. GAYLORD'S A BUSY MAN! DO YOU HAVE AN APPOINTMENT, SIR?

HE'LL SEE ME!

I'M FROM THE POLICE! I WANT YOUR FILE CARDS ON EVERY MAN WHO WORKS HERE!

I CAN'T DO THAT WITHOUT THE DIRECTOR'S PERMISSION!

I COUNTED TO TEN, THEN USED HIS DESK PHONE TO CALL THE DIRECTOR... A HALF HOUR LATER, I WAS WALKING THROUGH THE MUSEUM HALL WHEN SUDDENLY, I HEARD SOME QUEER NOISES BEHIND ME...

THE STATUES-- THEY'RE COMING AFTER ME!

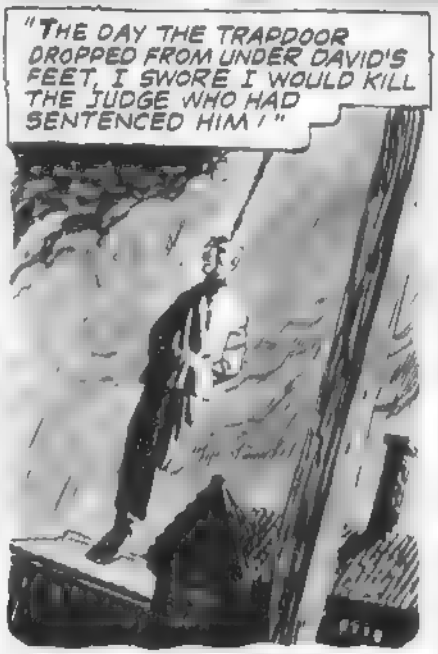
I BACKED UP FAST AS I COULD, BUT THERE WAS ONLY THE WALL AND A WINDOW BEHIND ME! AND A MEAN-LOOKING STATUE WAS STANDING GUARD AT THE EXIT I'D BEEN HEADING FOR...

I DIDN'T KNOW IT THEN, BUT AT THAT MOMENT SIX OTHER STATUES WERE TRUDGING TOWARDS THE MANSION WHERE RAYMOND HACKETT WAS...
BUT.. AN ARMY DETAIL WAS STANDING GUARD...
HERE THEY COME!
AN OFFICER BEGAN BARKING COMMANDS, THE OBSERVER CALLED BACK THE STATUES POSITION, AND...
BLAM!
A DIRECT HIT SHATTERED THE STATUES! THE SOLDIERS BEGAN CHEERING...BUT THE CHEERS DIED AWAY WHEN THEY SAW THE PIECES SLOWLY REASSEMBLING AND THE STATUES INCHED CLOSER AND CLOSER...
BACK AT THE MUSEUM, I WAS DOING THE ONLY THING I COULD TO GET AWAY...
I WAS BLEEDING AND GROGGY BY THE TIME I REACHED MY CAR, BUT I STILL HAD THE FILE CARDS WITH ME...
I WAS HOME NOW! I'D GONE THROUGH THE FILE CARDS AND FOUND A GOOD LEAD! I WAS JUST ABOUT TO CALL THE COMMISSIONER, WHEN...
WHA--THE?

ME AND MY STATUES HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU, MR DORNE! FORTUNATELY, YOU WERE LISTED IN THE PHONE BOOK!
Y-YOU MUST BE TILLSTON...

RIGHT-- I KNEW THAT ONCE YOU SAW MY FILE CARD, YOU'D ASSOCIATE ME WITH MY BROTHER'S MURDER TRIAL! DROP YOUR GUN... I PROMISE MY STATUES WILL NOT HARM YOU UNTIL I AM FINISHED!

"MY YOUNGER BROTHER DAVID HAD A VIOLENT TEMPER... THERE WAS A FIGHT IN A BAR... HE KILLED A MAN! THE JUDGE WHO SENTENCED HIM TO HANG WAS RAYMOND HACKETT..."


"THE DAY THE TRAPDOOR DROPPED FROM UNDER DAVID'S FEET, I SWORE I WOULD KILL THE JUDGE WHO HAD SENTENCED HIM!"

"I GOT A JOB AT THE MUSEUM! I BECAME INTERESTED IN THE STATUES-- EVEN STUDIED GREEK, SO WHEN A STATUE FELL ONE DAY, AND ITS HOLLOW HAND BROKE I FOUND A ROLLED PARCHMENT INSIDE... I WAS ABLE TO READ IT...

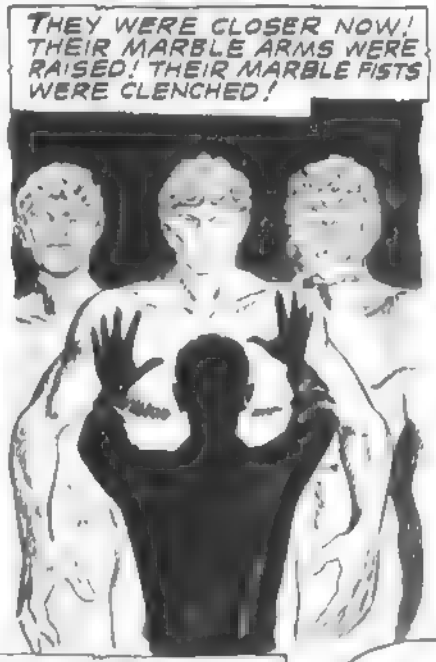
"THE PARCHMENT WAS WRITTEN BY PYGMALION--THE ANCIENT SCULPTOR WHO HAD WRITTEN DOWN THE CHANT HE USED TO BRING STONE TO LIFE!"
ΑΘ,ΔΘΑΒΑΙΝΣ ΕΛΛΑΝΥΝΚΑΙ

"THIS WAS MY CHANCE TO GET HACKETT! BUT FIRST I HAD TO MAKE SURE THE STATUE WOULD KILL AS I COMMANDED! I SENT THEM DOWN TO THE STREET..."

AND THEN, I HAD THEM KILL THE PATROLMAN WHO DISCOVERED BLOOD ON ONE OF THEM! YES, MR DORNE, THE STATUES MUST OBEY MY COMMANDS! AS LONG AS I'M ALIVE, THEY CAN'T BE DESTROYED...!

KILL! CRUSH HIM TO DEATH! THEN WE MUST HURRY BACK TO THE MUSEUM TO MEET THE OTHER STATUES WHO MUST BE FINISHED WITH HACKETT BY NOW!

I'D THROWN DOWN MY GUN! WHAT COULD I DO? I SHRANK BACK! MY HAND CLOSED ON A PAPERWEIGHT ON MY DESK! TILLSTON HAD SAID THE STATUES COULDN'T BE DESTROYED AS LONG AS HE WAS ALIVE...

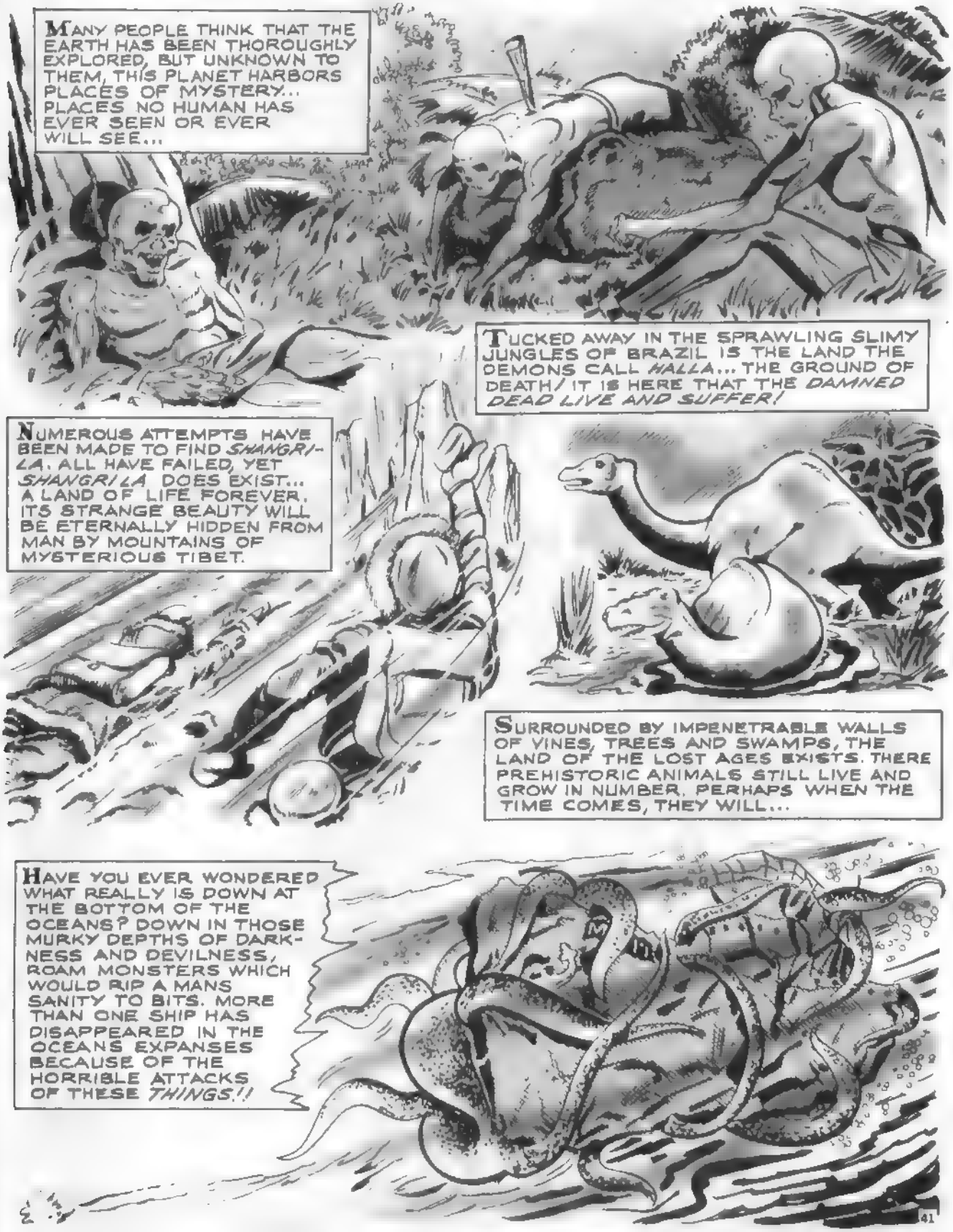

THEY WERE CLOSER NOW! THEIR MARBLE ARMS WERE RAISED! THEIR MARBLE FISTS WERE CLENCHED!

GOTTA KILL HIM-- IT'S MY ONLY CHANCE!

I GOT HIM RIGHT IN THE TEMPLE! THE SECOND HE SANK TO THE FLOOR, DEAD, THE STATUE STOPPED MOVING! AND AT THAT MOMENT -- THE SIX STATUES BATTLING THE TANK STOPPED MOVING TOO!

THAT'S THE STORY... BY THE WAY, WE NEVER DID FIND PYGMALION'S PARCHMENT! WE'RE ALL HOPING IT DOESN'T GET INTO THE WRONG HANDS... IF IT EVER DOES, YOURS TRULY IS HEADING FOR THE HILLS... I'M NOT CRAZY!
THE END

The UNKNOWN


MANY PEOPLE THINK THAT THE EARTH HAS BEEN THOROUGHLY EXPLORED, BUT UNKNOWN TO THEM, THIS PLANET HARBORS PLACES OF MYSTERY... PLACES NO HUMAN HAS EVER SEEN OR EVER WILL SEE...
TUCKED AWAY IN THE SPRAWLING SLIMY JUNGLES OF BRAZIL IS THE LAND THE DEMONS CALL *HALLA*... THE GROUND OF DEATH! IT IS HERE THAT THE *DAMNED DEAD LIVE AND SUFFER!*
NUMEROUS ATTEMPTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO FIND *SHANGRI-LA*. ALL HAVE FAILED, YET *SHANGRI LA* DOES EXIST... A LAND OF LIFE FOREVER. ITS STRANGE BEAUTY WILL BE ETERNALLY HIDDEN FROM MAN BY MOUNTAINS OF MYSTERIOUS TIBET.
SURROUNDED BY IMPENETRABLE WALLS OF VINES, TREES AND SWAMPS, THE LAND OF THE LOST AGES EXISTS. THERE PREHISTORIC ANIMALS STILL LIVE AND GROW IN NUMBER. PERHAPS WHEN THE TIME COMES, THEY WILL...
HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHAT REALLY IS DOWN AT THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEANS? DOWN IN THOSE MURKY DEPTHS OF DARKNESS AND DEVILNESS, ROAM MONSTERS WHICH WOULD RIP A MANS SANITY TO BITS. MORE THAN ONE SHIP HAS DISAPPEARED IN THE OCEANS EXPANSES BECAUSE OF THE HORRIBLE ATTACKS OF THESE *THINGS!!*

THE SORCERESS
ON A SMALL, NEW ENGLAND TOWN, ABIGAIL WILKINS, THE GREAT-GREAT GRAND DAUGHTER OF ONE OF THE WITCHES BURNED IN SALEM EKES OUT A MEAGRE LIVING...
WHEW! IT'S SUCH A HOT DAY TO WORK!
LATER...
REMEMBER, MAX, YOU PROMISED TO FIRE THAT BIT PLAYER! I CAN'T STAND HER...OOF!
SURE, SYLVIA! ANYTHING YOU SAY! HEY...LOOK OUT!
UHH!
4

OH, A WHOLE DAYS WASH RUINED! OH, WHY COULDN'T YOU HAVE WATCHED OUT!
HEY, WASHLADY... IT WAS YOU WHO SHOVED ME!

IT WAS YOUR FAULT! ANYONE COULD SEE TH-- OUCH!
DON'T DARE SPEAK TO ME THAT WAY... YOU... YOU TRASH!

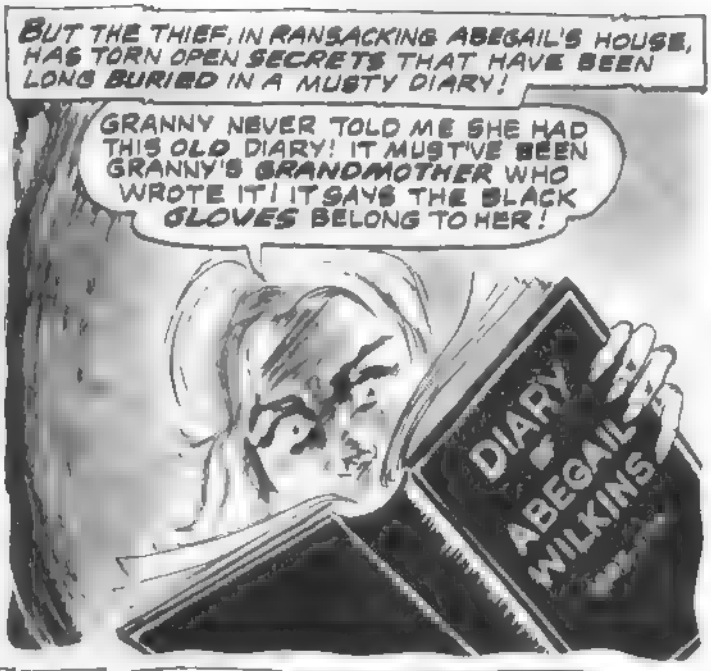
NOW... NOW... DON'T MIND HER, MISS! SYLVIA LAMODE IS A TEMPERMENTAL ARTIST! HERE TAKE THIS AND FORGET ABOUT IT...
DON'T TRY AND BUY MY DIGNITY! I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT SLAP... NEVER!

LATER...
BUT, MRS. FORSYTHE... LET ME EXPLAIN...
NEVER MIND THE EXCUSES! YOU HAVEN'T TOUCHED THE CLOTHES! YOU'LL GET NO MORE WORK FROM ME!

SOME DAYS SEEM FULL OF BAD LUCK! THE SUN SHOULD HAVE BEEN BLACK THIS MORNING ... NOT YELLOW...

OH, OH, SHE SPOTTED ME!
THIEF! STOP!

OH, EVIL DAY... ALL MY SAVINGS ARE GONE... AND (SOB-SOB)-- THE BLACK GLOVES GRANNY LEFT ME... SOB


BUT THE THIEF, IN RANSACKING ABEGAIL'S HOUSE, HAS TORN OPEN SECRETS THAT HAVE BEEN LONG BURIED IN A MUSTY DIARY!
GRANNY NEVER TOLD ME SHE HAD THIS OLD DIARY! IT MUST'VE BEEN GRANNY'S GRANDMOTHER WHO WROTE IT! IT SAYS THE BLACK GLOVES BELONG TO HER!
DIARY OF ABEGAIL WILKINS

THESE OLD LETTERS AND DIARY ARE FASCINATING... AND THOSE GLOVES ARE SUPPOSED TO HAVE SOME SPECIAL POWER! THERE MUST BE A WAY TO GET THE GLOVES BACK...

ALL THRU THE NIGHT ABEGAIL READ THE SECRETS OF EVIL! THE NEXT DAY... SHE GATHERED SOME GHASTLY INGREDIENTS AND THAT NIGHT...
...NINE RAT TAILS, FOUR EEL HEADS, THIRTEEN SNAIL SHELLS, A GREEN SNAKE, SIX BLACK SPIDERS...

BY TAIL OF SNAIL AND HEAD OF FISH, COME AND TELL ME WHAT I WISH! BY BLOOD OF WORM AND BLOOD OF WEEVIL, COME AND TELL ME OF BLACK EVIL!

OHOOOO!

THEN FROM OUT OF THE UNHOLY BREW GREW AN UNHOLY VISION! THE ODOR OF BURNING SULFUR FILLED THE ROOM!
W-WHO... WHAT ARE YOU?
HEE-HEE-HEE! I AM ABEGAIL WILKINS... YOU MUST RECOVER THE GLOVES! FIND WEASEL DOOLITTLE...

THIS IS ALL THE MONEY I HAVE! IT'S YOURS IF YOU CAN TELL ME WHERE I CAN FIND WEASEL DOOLITTLE...
OKAY! HE LIVES IN THE BASEMENT APARTMENT AT 113 BLEAK STREET..

GEEZ... EVER SINCE I'VE BEEN USING THESE GLOVES, SAFES SEEM TO OPEN SOON AS I TOUCH 'EM-- HA-HA! HUM!
ALL RIGHT, WEASEL... I'VE COME FOR MY GLOVES!

LOOK, I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU GOT IN HERE... ANYWAY, I'LL GIVE YOU A HUNDRED BUCKS FOR THEM! THEY'VE BEEN LUCKY FOR ME!
NOTHING DOING! I WANT MY GLOVES!

I'M NOT GIVING THEM BACK!
OBEY ME, ANCIENT HANDS! DO TO THIS FILTH WHAT HE WOULD DO TO ME!

SLOWLY, IRRESISTIBLY, WITH A POWER NOT HIS OWN! WEASEL'S OWN HANDS CREEP TO HIS THROAT, GRASPS IT AND SQUEEZES...

AGHRRRRRHH!

LITTLE FOOL, TO PIT YOUR MORTAL POWER AGAINST MINE!

QUITE A PERFORMANCE! THAT MURDER SCENE IN THE LAST ACT IS SPINE-CHILLING!

YOU SAID IT!

AH, YES... SYLVIA LAMODE... SEEMS TO ME I HAVE A LITTLE SCORE TO SETTLE WITH HER!

SILVIA LA MODE MURDER MY LOVE

ALTHO ABEGAIL HARDLY REALIZES IT, HER BRAIN HAS BECOME A BOILING POT OF EVIL SCHEMES!

I REMEMBER ONCE, THE MANAGER TOLD ME THAT SYLVIA LAMODE HAD TO BE HANDLED WITH KID GLOVES! HA-HA! WELL, I'LL MAKE HER A PRESENT OF THESE!

MAX, WILL YOU LOOK AT THESE MAGNIFICENT GLOVES! A FAN SENT THEM TO ME AND BEGGED THAT I WEAR THEM FOR TONIGHT'S PERFORMANCE!

THAT'S NICE, SYLVIA, BUT YOU'D BETTER HURRY...

SILVIA LA MODE

WITH GREAT PLEASURE, SYLVIA SLID ON THE GLOVES, LITTLE REALIZING THAT SHE WORE THE BLACK HANDS OF DEATH!

SAY, I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU WEAR THOSE GLOVES BEFORE... THEY'RE SO SOFT!

ALL THE BETTER TO CHOKE YOU WITH IN THE LAST ACT, DARLING!

THIS IS THE SCENE WHERE SHE'S SUPPOSED TO MURDER HIM, BUT HE MURDERS HER!
SHH! LET ME WATCH!
NOW, YOU SOFT HANDS OF VIOLENCE... MAKE COME REAL THE DEED SHE IS ACTING!

SYLVIA...NOT SO... TIGHT... I C-CAN'T (GASP) BREATHE... ;GLUG;!

THAT'S THE MOST REALISTIC MURDER SCENE I'VE EVER WITNESSED!
OOOH! IT'S SO REAL, I CAN'T WATCH...
ARRRGH!
JOHN... WHAT AM I DOING? I CAN'T HELP IT! MY HANDS, C-CAN'T CONTROL THEM!

WHAT HAVE I DONE?

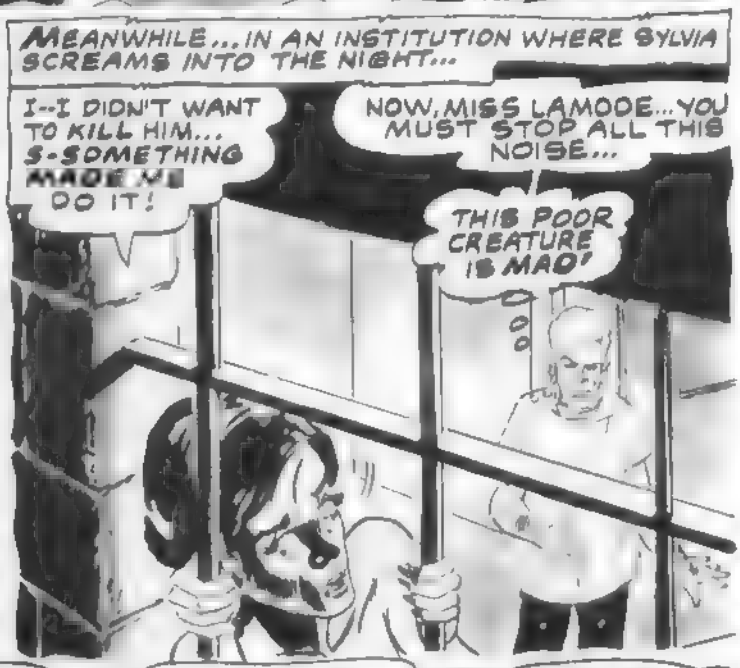
NOW, JUST TAKE IT EASY, MISS...
HE'S DEAD!
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN... THERE'S BEEN A A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT!

THE STUNNED AUDIENCE STANDS, AND FROM HIGH ABOVE THEY HEAR A BLOOD CHILLING CACKLE!
HEEE--HEEEE!
THAT LAUGH... OH-H--
LOOK... UP THERE... THAT GIRL...

COME BACK TO ME, MY SOFT BLACK LOVELIES!! COME BACK... COME BACK!!

BILL--WHAT WAS THAT! SOMETHING BRUSHED RIGHT BY MY FACE!
EASY, JANE...YOU'RE JUST JUMPY TONIGHT AFTER WHAT HAPPENED AT THE THEATRE...

LIKE OMINOUS, DEADLY BIRDS OF PREY, THE TWO BLACK KILLERS RETURN TO THEIR MISTRESS...


MEANWHILE...IN AN INSTITUTION WHERE SYLVIA SCREAMS INTO THE NIGHT...
I--I DIDN'T WANT TO KILL HIM... S-SOMETHING MADE ME DO IT!
NOW, MISS LAMODE...YOU MUST STOP ALL THIS NOISE...
THIS POOR CREATURE IS MAD!

RICKIO, THE GREATIST MAGICIAN! HUMPH! WHY...WITH MY HANDS, I COULD MAKE HIM LOOK SICK!
RICKIO
MAGIC

YOU SEEM VERY INTERESTED IN THE POSTER, MISS! HOW WOULD YOU LIKE A JOB AS RICKIO'S ASSISTANT? HE NEEDS ONE!
IF YOU'RE FOR REAL, MISTER... I'LL TAKE THE JOB...

THIS IS THE YOUNG LADY I TOLD YOU ABOUT, RICKIO... ABEGAIL WILKINS!
OH, YES— HOW DO YOU DO?
WHY... WHY, HE'S QUITE HANDSOME! I--I HAD NO IDEA...
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HER COLD, UNEMOTIONAL LIFE, ABEGAIL FELT LOVE FOR A HUMAN BEING...
RICKIO! THIS IS OUR FIRST PERFORMANCE TOGETHER! PLEASE WEAR THESE!
ACT 4
WELL, ALL RIGHT, IF YOU WISH--BUT IT'S NOT THE GLOVES WHICH MAKE A GREAT MAGICIAN... BUT THE HANDS IN THEM!

AND NOW, FROM THIS HAT, I WILL PRODUCE A RABBIT... I-I MEAN... SNAKES!!
H-HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?
GREATEST MAGICIAN! HA! HA! WITH THOSE GLOVES ON I CAN MAKE HIM PRODUCE ANYTHING I WISH!
F-FOR MY FINAL TRICK OF THE EVENING--ONE THAT NO OTHER PERSON IN THE WORLD CAN DO... I WILL... HUH?
HEY! LOOK OVER THERE!
IT... IT'S OLD RALPH HALEY... AND JIM DALY!
IT CAN'T BE! THEY'VE BEEN DEAD TWENTY YEARS!

WHAT IN THE WORLD...!!
WE COME... THE POWER OF THE BLACK HANDS CALLS US... WE OBEY!!
Then... PANDEMONIAN AS THE CROWD GOES BERSERK!
YAHHH! OUT OF MY WAY!
YOWW!
HELP!

ABEGAIL! DID YOU SEE IT? I'VE REACHED THE GREATEST POWER OF ALL! NOW I CAN RAISE THE DEAD? I'M GREAT, DO YOU HEAR? GREAT!
I KNEW MY GLOVES WOULD BE LUCKY, RICKIO!
YOUR GLOVES? BAH! I TOLD YOU IT'S THE HANDS THAT DO IT! NOT THE GLOVES!
YOU'RE A FOOL! BLACK HANDS CHOKE THIS DISBELIEVER! CHOKE HIM NOW!
YOU'RE MAD, ABEGAIL! YOU SEE, NOTHING HAS HAPPENED! YOU MIGHT AS WELL TRY AND MAKE A STONE BLEED AS TO TRY TO CONTROL ME!
I...I'VE LOST MY POWER! IT... IT'S BECAUSE I LET MYSELF LOVE YOU... IT HAS BROKEN MY POWER OVER EVIL!
RICKIO! YOU HAVE THE POWER OF THE BLACK HANDS NOW! YOU MUST TAKE ME WITH YOU! BUT I CAN'T STOP NOW THAT I HAVE KNOWN WHAT POWER IS!
HA! WHAT POWER? OH, WELL... IF YOU WANT TO STAY, YOU CAN... PROVIDING YOU BE MY ASSISTANT IN MY KNIFE THROWING ACT!
THERE WAS LITTLE ABEGAIL COULD DO! THE GLOVES REFUSED TO OBEY HER! THEN, ONE NIGHT....
RICKIO, NOT SO CLOSE... YOU'RE FRIGHTENING ME...
BE QUIET, FOOL! I NEVER MISS!
THIS GIRL IS BEGINNING TO GET ON MY NERVES AS IF SHE'S A THREAT TO ME
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BUT LITTLE DOES RICKIO KNOW THE POWER OF HIS OWN WISHES OVER THE POWER OF HIS HANDS! HE PICKS UP THE RAZOR SHARP KNIFE, WHIPS BACK HIS ARM, AND THROWS...
NO! NO.... RICKIO!
ABEGAIL...I... ...DIDN'T MEAN TO! SOME THING MADE MY HANDS DO IT! ABEGAIL!
I...I KNEW (COUGH) IT WOULD END THIS...(COUGH) WAY! YOU WISHED ME DEAD... I KNOW! THE BLACK HANDS HEARD YOU... GASP... RICKIO... OO-O-O-O--
QUICK, RICKIO... GET A DOCTOR...
TOO LATE, MAX... SHE... SHE'S DEAD!
I... I CAN'T BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND HOW IT HAPPENED... HUH? WHAT?
ALL RIGHT, RICKIO... THE D.A. WANTS TO SEE YOU... FOR THE MURDER OF ABEGAIL WILKINS...
MURDER?? BUT I TELL YOU IT WAS AN ACCIDENT...
THAT'S WHAT YOU SAY... BUT WE FOUND HER DIARY RICKIO, AND IN IT SHE SAYS THAT IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO HER IT WOULD BE YOUR FAULT!
AND AS THEY TAKE THE PROTESTING, SCREAMING RICKIO AWAY, THE FINAL LID OF DEATH SHUTS OUT THE LIGHT FROM ABEGAIL WILKINS AS SHE GOES TO JOIN HER ANCESTORS... WHO KNOWS WHERE?
ABEGAIL WILKINS
THE END